

NARO MINDED

JANUARY '96

ISSUE 1

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THE ROCHDALE POLTERGEIST CASE * MENWITH
SECRET FACILITY * CLATTERBRIDGE UFO CASE
* THE NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE * ANGELS IN
STOCKPORT * A HISTORICAL LOOK AT UFOs
* DIVINE OR DEMONIC? * plus much much
more.....

WHAT DOES 'NARO' STAND FOR?

NARO was founded in 1963 in response to a growing interest in the UFO phenomenon. Indeed until recently it was called 'MUFORA' - the Manchester UFO Research Association. This was appropriate at a time when UFOs were perceived to be nuts and bolts space craft. In recent years the membership has become all too aware of the psychic dynamics present in many UFO experiences. Entity encounters in particular share a number of common factors with other non-UFO phenomena such as Near Death Experience (NDEs). In recognition of this, MUFORA changed to the Northern Anomalies Research Organisation in January 1994 and became affiliated to the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena (ASSAP).

NARO is composed of around twenty members from all walks of life, who investigate claims of the paranormal on a part time basis. Membership is strictly regulated and there is currently a waiting list. Only activists need apply, NARO is not a talking shop.

The aims of the organisation include the following:

1. **To investigate claims with a view to finding a rational explanation for alleged phenomena where appropriate.**
2. **To document cases for research purposes.**
3. **To educate the media and the public in the subtleties and complexities of the 'paranormal'.**
4. **To convince the scientific establishment of the objective validity of some cases and phenomena.**

To a lesser or greater degree these aims are already being achieved. NARO has around 2,000 cases on file and scientists regularly give NARO investigators their expertise. This latter demonstrates a general shift in attitude regarding anomalies that appear to defy 'rational' explanations.

Peter A. Hough - Chairman.

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A NARO PUBLICATION

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WET! WET! WET!

BY

Peter Hough

It is not often that investigators witness phenomena. We usually arrive after the crime has been committed and are left picking through the clues.

When recording equipment is set up the spook usually chooses that moment to go on holiday or sit invisibly in a corner quietly chuckling to itself. Or so it seems.

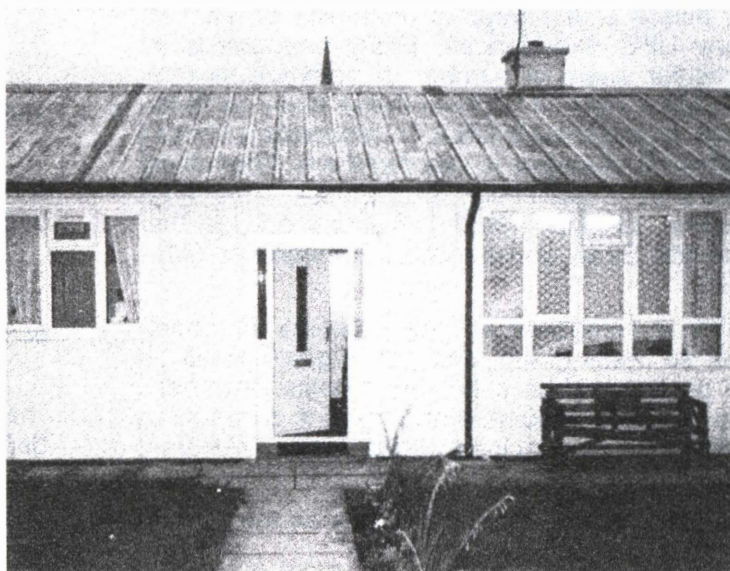
When NARO investigators Stephen Mera and Alicia Leigh followed up a newspaper report of a couple experiencing poltergeist activity, no one had any reason to think it would be any different. An interview was arranged with the couple and Mrs. Gardner's grown-up daughter, Jeanette.

We arrived at the prefabricated bungalow in Rochdale on Thursday morning 31st August and began tape recording their story. The Gardners claimed that in the ten months since their daughter had come to live at the house, they had been plagued by water dripping from the ceilings. Initially they thought that pipes were leaking in the loft, and called out the council to investigate.

A thorough search of the loft found no leaking pipes or any sign of dampness. The phenomenon continued throughout the long hot and dry summer. According to the Gardners, council officials said they were throwing water onto the ceiling in

was also evident on the wall and door frame.

Then it began in the bathroom and kitchen, appearing on wall units too. While we were talking, Alicia was staring at the open kitchen door which was wet along



The Rochdale prefabricated bungalow

order to facilitate a move to another house - something they strenuously denied.

Ten minutes into the interview their daughter, Jeanette, entered the living room. Her shoulders were wet and she claimed water had begun dripping in the hallway. Sure enough there was an irregular patch about six inches across from which water was steadily falling.

My examination of the loft showed that it was bone dry, hot and dusty. We then discovered water dripping in the back bedroom water

the bottom. Then before her eyes the entire surface of the door became coated with thousands of tiny beads of water Jeanette appeared to be the catalyst for the disturbances, which also included disembodied voices and the levitation of objects. Unlikely though it seemed after all we had witnessed, it occurred to us that she might be hoaxing the affair for attention.

We discovered there was a lot of bad feeling and emotional upset in the family connected with Jeanette's grand-daughter and Mrs. Gardners former husband

who died six years previously.

It was he who was blamed by the family for the 'haunting'. While we were dodging from room to room, Jeanette claimed that an ornamental mask had fallen off the wall onto a sideboard. She was alone at the time - had she faked the phenomenon, no one had heard the mask fall?

The nail from which the ornament had hung rested conveniently alongside the mask.

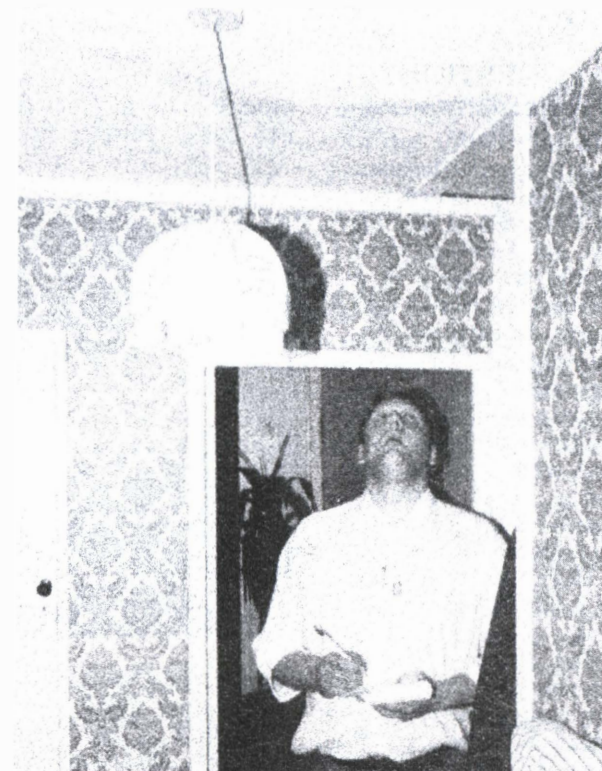
An examination of the edges of the hole showed they were not chipped or cracked as one would expect if the nail had been 'waggled' out.

I could not force it back in. This made it unlikely that anyone could have pulled the nail out with their fingers. Did this let Jeanette off the hook?

While we continued the interview, Stephen stood in the open doorway leading into the hall, taking notes. Suddenly he cried out! Water had suddenly arced across the hall ceiling. The evidence was plain to see.

The original wet patch was now crowned by a crescent from which water was dripping. Stephen described

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THE PARANORMAL WATERFALL

what he saw: *"It was as if the ceiling was the floor, and someone had suddenly thrown a glass of water across it."* At the conclusion of our interview I went outside to take some photographs of the bungalow.

As I took the first shot, the alarm on Stephen's car suddenly went off. Stephen came out looking puzzled and reset it. When Alicia opened the car door the

radio was blaring out. The couple were adamant they had switched it off in order to concentrate on map directions.

We took samples of water for analysis and planned to organise a vigil at the premises.

FINAL PART NEXT ISSUE:

Analysis results, a moving statue, disembodied voices and a slap on the back.....

MENWITH IN QUESTION?

BY STEPHEN MERA

In July 1995 I spent a very pleasant afternoon with some colleagues on Ilkley Moor. Several hot air balloons were visible travelling in a westerly direction towards Addingham, notorious for it's UFO sightings.

Sometime later our attention was drawn to a dark object in the distance. Our rational minds said it was a hot air balloon, but was it?

There was an absence of a basket and the balloon was perfectly round. Its rapid vertical descent also gave us the beginning of a mystery. We watched it disappear from view in amongst several large domes which we presumed were part of an industrial complex.

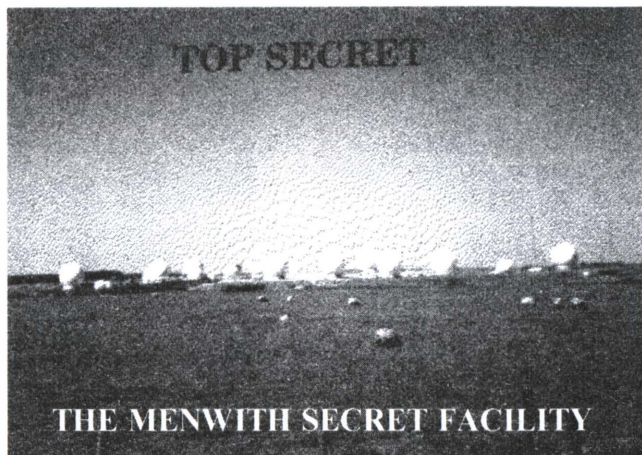
Curiosity drove us to the A59 and the Menwith Hill Station. The several large domes turned out to be twenty two, along with a number of vertical aerials, two communication dishes, high powered lighting, C.C.T.V., many M.O.D. warning signs and it's full complement of wire fencing and armed guards. 'Eat your heart out Agent Mulder'.

I video recorded the sta-

tion for ten minutes showing an underground facility built into the hillside. It was brought to my attention that two white security jeeps

area. We asked about the restrictions and it took them a little over twenty minutes to find the information.

There was a perimeter re-



were heading towards us at an excessive speed.

Needless to say I didn't wait to exchange pleasantries. We quickly retreated to a country lane hoping to outwit our pursuers.

After a length of time we decided to head home.

Research

Civilian airports were contacted for information, we were told that the station had been decom-

missioned two years previously.

Obviously this was not the case as the station was a hive of activity with over two hundred cars parked within.

R.A.F. Shorebury were told that a balloon flight was to take place in the

striction of 2.15 nautical miles and a height restriction of 6,500 feet. They told us of high radiation risks.

We examined R.A.F. charts, civilian charts and geographical charts. MOD spokes person for the American Bases on British soil, Lucy Knight, was asked for information on Menwith Hill. She told us there was no information available to the public and if we took any photographs of the facility we would be arrested.

She then asked a strange question, "are you a UFO enthusiast?" The obvious reply was "NO". Menwith Hill security police were contacted, they were extremely rude and put the 'phone down.

Also a colleague was sent to the guard house situated at the front of the facility. The guard would say noth-

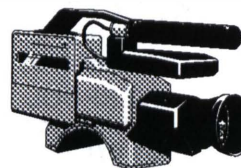
The guard would say nothing about the station.

However he told him that about three months ago a balloon came too close to the base and they went haywire, the whole base was put on alert and the two balloonists were questioned why the restriction had been broken.

Recent information leads me to believe that the station is a top secret listening facility that is run by the National Security Agency (NSA) and they are capable of listening in on conversations throughout the United Kingdom and are also involved in the manufacture of top secret satellite equipment. Considering UFOs have been sighted very near to the facility, could it be that Menwith Hill isn't picking up on UFO activity.

If so then the only explanation must be left to your imagination.

VIDEOS



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Researchers and investigators of the paranormal tend to have an agreement with the majority of people in everyday life to live their lives within parameters with everything in it's place and nothing out of the ordinary, often referring to it as 'living in a box'. This can also be said about some scientists.

This type of reference can also be applied to a majority of researchers and investigators who become wrapped in their fields of study, so much so they categorise information, evidence and eye witness reports into their own little boxes.

This is all quite a normal occurrence as our basic instincts encourage us in this direction. However it is now noticed that open minded thinking and some coincidences have led some researchers and investigators into new areas where paranormal activities overlap and are not looked upon as single paranormal events any more.

Examples of this were discovered in the areas of UFO and poltergeist activity. Also, what was new thinking in it's time, theories about the earth's natu-

ral ability to still astound and affect us in what seem to be rare conditions causing spectacular events either in our mind or a natural occurrence in our skies.

As in the past, none of these paranormal events have yet come up with solid hard evidence to prove or disprove their existence, this being an almost impossible occurrence when you take into account our present day technological equipment which is available to anyone with the time and money willing to make bogus claims.

In retrospect this technology can help us towards filtering out these claims. Through the equipment and help available through main body groups such as the Association for the Scientific study of Anomalous Phenomena (ASSAP), or through contacts in science, universities, airports and such like. Maybe certain anomalies will be conquered and we will reap the benefits if there are any to be had, but, as history has shown us time and time again, other anomaly will surface to give us a means to an end in our chosen interest.

GOOD LUCK!

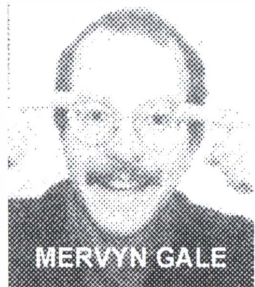


Angels in Stockport?

I'm interested in coincidence.

What's more, I'd intended to write a brief article on the subject, but I was unable to furnish a single example that others might find interesting or amusing - that is, until I went to Stockport library.

Now, Stockport Library is hardly the kind of place one would expect to harbour hints of the fabulous unknown, but this is precisely the point: the impish leer of synchronicity is liable to startle you anywhere...



MERVYN GALE

I'd gone to the library to help with some research into the history of a house, (lets call it 77 Enfield Way). The librarian, obliging and efficient, soon helped me locate the material I sought, and I proceeded to look up the aforementioned address.

There turned out to be only two streets with 'Enfield' in the name, I thought it best to check both, and here something decidedly odd happened. The second address was *Enfield Street*, rather than *Enfield Way*. I wrote down the appropriate

page reference from the index and looked it up - only to find that it actually referred to *Enfield Court*, several miles away, and useless for my enquiries.

Enfield Court, however is the address of a friend I intended to telephone later in the day: I'd forgotten about this in my absorption in Victorian maps and voters lists. In other words, an erroneous index entry seemed to be designed just for me. I would imagine that such errors are very rare in Ordnance Survey records, and the librarian was certainly surprised to say the least. This may strike a chord.

How often have we heard of people seeking obscure information in libraries, only to be thwarted at every turn, until, on the point of acknowledging utter failure, they drop a book accidentally - only to see it fall open at exactly the page they needed all along?

Rather whimsically, Colin Wilson calls this phenomenon the 'Library Angel': after all, this kind of intervention usually seems helpful and benign.

But there's a problem. The

fact that my grasshopper mind was only jolted into recollecting my original intention by an error - an actual misprint - suggests something more than angelic bookworms at play for surely anybody actually looking for Enfield Court would be handicapped by the error, not helped as I was.

So, we should end with a note of caution. If we consider these 'library angels' as elementals, as modern day fairies, along with poltergeists and black eyed "Zeta Reticulans", we should know better than to expect anything other than selfishness from them. For what they give with one hand, they usually take with the other. Just ask someone with an alien implant up their nose!

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A POTTED HISTORY OF U.F.O.s

PART ONE

by Peter North

In this first of this series on the history of UFOs, we shall take a brief look at some projects that have been

carried out by the United States Government.

The modern wave of Unidentified Flying Objects began on June 24th, 1947 when Kenneth Arnold who was a private pilot and salesman of fire control equipment from Boise, Idaho, was flying over the cascade mountains searching for a missing C46 aircraft.

He never found the missing aircraft, but what he did see made him a celebrity all over the world. He was flying over Mineral in Washington, when he spotted a bright flash of light.

He then saw nine objects streaking over Mount Baker towards Mount Rainier, he calculated their speed at about 1,700 miles per hour, though he later changed his estimate to 1,200 m.p.h., which was

still a high speed for the day. The objects were darting in and out of the smaller peaks,

More Things in sky than USAF dreams of

Those Things in the sky were NOT planes refuelling - official

UFO riddle - back to Square One

RAF jets chase

More UFOs: Has vicar got answer?

Police chase 'flying object'

UFOs: 'There's SOME thing there'

NOW THE UFOs ARE STOPPING THE TRAFFIC

Aeroplanes refuelling theory for U.F.O.s

It WAS... says

they then disappeared heading due south. When he landed Arnold told his story to a newspaper called the East Oregonian.

One of the reporters put the story on the Associated Press wires and this and similar sightings were reported throughout America.

When Kenneth Arnold was describing what he had seen, he said the objects "flew like a saucer would if you skipped it across the water".

The newspaper men then coined the phrase 'Flying Saucers'.

Throughout that year there were numerous other sightings and by the late 1940's, the United States Airforce began calling such sightings Unidentified Flying Objects. From that time on UFOs have been the subject of controversy, wonderment and mystification.

With the arrival of 'Flying Saucers' memories were revived of a phenomenon that had been witnessed by many pilots all over the world. During World War II these were described in various ways, as amorphous nocturnal lights or silvery discs.

The pilots remembered a cartoon character named Smokey Stover who used to say "Where there's a Foo there's a Fire" and they gave the objects the name 'Foo Fighters'. The news of these objects was censored until the end of the war.

In the summer of 1947, Air Material Command was asked to study the phenomena of UFOs and make recommendations about what should be

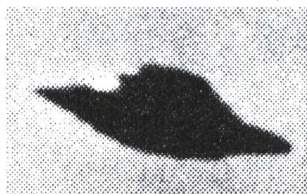
done. In September of that year Lt. Gen. Nathan Twinning wrote to his superiors with his analysis of the situation, part of his statement reads:

"The situation is real and not visory or fictitious".

Three months later the U.S. Air Force established a project to investigate UFOs, this was named **Project Sign**.

By late July 1948 Project Sign had come to the conclusion that visitors from outer-space had arrived.

The proof they gave was a reported sighting over Alabama by the pilot and copilot of an Eastern Airlines DC3, they had seen a huge tube



Taken by an unknown source in Germany during the 1970's.

shaped object with rows of square windows, the object was shooting flames from the rear. It was also seen by a passenger on the plane and had been seen earlier in the day by a ground maintenance crewman. The description also tallied with an object seen four days previously over the Hague in Holland.

Investigators concluded that the object was not an earthly missile or aircraft and that witnesses were not mistaken about what they had seen.

A document containing this and other reliable sightings was handed to Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg. An officer from the AMC later stated that in the original report a physical evidence case was presented as well and that Gen. Vandenberg demanded the removal of this from the draft report.

The physical evidence case would come to be known as **'The Roswell Incident'**. Vandenberg then rejected the document on the grounds that the case was not proven and the people who had worked on Project Sign were reassigned or encouraged to leave the service.

Project Sign was followed in 1949 by **'Project Grudge'** which in reality

was nothing more than a debunking campaign by the USAF, this ran until 1952 when it was replaced by **'Project Blue Book'**.

Project Blue Book was closed down in December 1969 amid accusations that it was just a public relations exercise and that another well funded but secret project handled the more sensitive cases.



One of Daniel Fry's 'spinning UFO' photographs, July 1949.

From this moment on, the study of UFOs would have two histories, the official one known to the public and a hidden one known only to a few people holding high positions in various governments.

THE NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

ITS RELEVANCE TO LIFE AND THE PARANORMAL

The much revered 13th century Japanese Buddhist Sage - *Nichiren Daishonin* said that in order to study life, one should first study death.

In the early 1970's a doctor in the United States *Raymond Moody* decided to do just that, when he began to realise that some of his patients were reporting how they had gone through profound, vivid and intense experiences.

They informed him that these occurred after they had apparently left, or moved out of, their physical bodies during a life threatening or near death crisis in their illness. Moody defined the process as the 'near death experience' (NDE). He proposed a set of various stages or distinct aspects. These, with many additional refinements over the past twenty years are shown in the panel.

Not all of the 23 experiences are reported however by everyone who undergoes the NDE and there are may be several possible mundane explanations for it's manifestation.

Moody, and more recently **Dr. Peter Fenwick** (consultant psychiatrist at the Maudsley Hospital, London) examined the possible mundane causes for these experiences. These included:

oxygen starvation or physiological disturbances of the brain, the effect of drugs or medicines, and psychological factors such as dreams, hallucinations and delusions.

They have however, as medi-

1. General ineffability or an inability to adequately describe the intensity of the experience.
2. Awareness of ones physical surroundings, despite apparent physical unconsciousness.
3. A sense of complete freedom, lightness and floating.
4. Calmness or an intense sense of peace, bliss and joy.
5. Buzzing or ringing sounds - sometimes music.
6. Passage along a dark tunnel with an intensely bright (non-blinding) light at its end.
7. Awareness of possessing another body besides ones physical body.
8. Encounters with familiar people who are known to have died.
9. Rare encounters with bewildered or distraught, apparently 'earth bound' deceased persons.
10. Meeting 'beings of light' that seem to emanate indescribable and unconditional compassion.
11. Both a subjective and objective - vivid and intense life review.
12. A sense of being all knowing and at one with everything.
13. A sense of familiarity or coming home.
14. A sense of things being more real than life.
15. A deep sense of duty or responsibility for ones life.
16. Visions of exquisitely beautiful buildings and landscapes.
17. Rarely - visions of hell or intensely negative feelings.
18. A border or boundary that cannot be crossed.
19. A decision to return, either chosen or directed.
20. a deep sense of regret at having to return.
21. Returning to ones body - re-entry.
22. The need to tell others about the experience.
23. Profound after effects - including psychic abilities, loss of the fear of death and zest for life.

cal experts, ruled these out as the most probable causes.

Eysenck and Sargent (1993) credit Atlanta cardiologist **Dr. Peter Sabom** with the finest research in this field, especially with regard to discrediting the mundane explanations (cited above) for the NDE. Sabom tape recorded one hundred interviews with patients who claimed to have had a NDE and compared these with the actual procedures involved in their resuscitation.

He found a surprising amount of correlation between the two. He also tested subjects for their knowledge of cardiopulmonary resuscitation after showing them

many hours of television programmes containing medical extracts - which involved scenes involving cardiac resuscitation. A significant number of these subjects made errors when being tested on the content of these procedures, while his NDE subjects did not usually make mistakes.

Sabom's findings would appear to enhance the evidence for the mystical reality of the phenomenon.

In the next edition:-

Further evidence from other researchers will be discussed, together with it's significance.

the clutterbridge ufo

One witness, (Mrs. A) a college technician, had contacted me in the first week of November to inform me of a UFO she and her family had sighted on Sunday evening, the 15th of October 1995.



Drawing of UFO seen

With her was her son aged twenty two. They were all in a car driving from their home in Mould, Clwyd, to Liverpool. They took a route through the Wirral, coming off the A540 and driving from Willaston on the B5151. It was approaching the roundabout at Clatterbridge, coming towards the hospital, that they began to observe some unusual lights in the sky (LITS).

What was witnessed were two bright lights, initially described as "round car head-lights....and as close together". They were immediately curious and remarked on how strange it was, that it was such a lovely evening sky. They described the weather as clear but the sky was dotted by unusual reddish clouds.

They watched the lights, wondering what exactly they were looking at. The lights appeared to be hovering in the sky. Approaching the roundabout near Clatterbridge Hospital, one of the lights began to

"dart downwards towards Bromborough", heading in an east-south-east direction.

As their car approached the M53 (junction 4), they noticed three of these unusual lights in the sky as well as several police cars in the distance. In fact they claimed "a police Range Rover nearly ran their car off the road", just as they were passing Clatterbridge Hospital. The driver had to move over quickly

to allow the police vehicle to pass them. They had now driven onto the junction of the M53 and onwards towards Liverpool. The motorway had become very busy and Mrs. A had to concentrate on her driving.

Upon making a joke that "whatever they are, we are being invaded", they noticed that the objects had darted about and hovered.

Suddenly, one of the lights appeared to be coming towards the car, descending lower and lower, they were now driving towards it! They all felt very apprehensive as the object became so bright and so close it flew directly over them making no sound whatsoever.

The family saw that the object had lights all around it,

some being blue in colour and these lights were flashing. They could not make out what the object was due to the brightness of the lights. They were convinced that what they had seen was not an aeroplane or helicopter of any sort due to the low level and high speed manoeuvres.

After it passed over them, the object appeared to disappear into thin air, only to reappear directly above them. Her son noticed that the time was 19:20 GMT, and that two other lights were hovering further away. The sighting left them feeling very worried.

The two drawings of the UFO differ due to the intensity of light which prevented the witnesses from any exact definition of the object seen. The witnesses believe the UFO was circular with a 'triangular' in-



Underside of UFO

terior.

Was it a police helicopter or was it an interaction with alien life?

If anyone else witnessed any of these events, please contact the author on 0151-486-6087, the sighting was on Sunday, October 15th at approximately 19:00 GMT.

Tony Eccles

ADVERTISING IN NARO MINDED

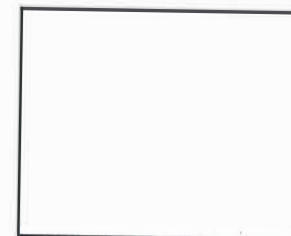
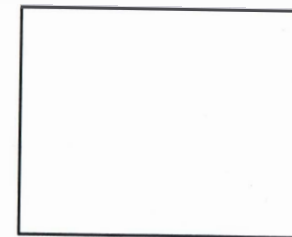
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COMMENT CORNER

Write in with your comments

Divine or Demonic?

by Alicia Leigh

More and more people are turning away from orthodox medicine and opting for more natural methods of treatment. One of these treatments is crystal healing, which is fuel for furious debate between healers, researchers and Christian fundamentalists alike.

According to Lorraine Phillips, an aromatherapist and healer, crystals have been used and revered since the dawn of civilisation. The early Christian bible refers to crystals over 2000 times and the legendary lost continent of Atlantis was supposedly destroyed by the misuse of crystals.

Atlantans apparently based their whole civilisation around crystals as a power source, for healing and to enhance learning abilities. Lorraine explained

it as utilising the Earth's 'energy'.

"Contact with a crystal stimulates ones personal energy to be conducted through to the area on the patients body which needs attention".

On the other hand, Christian fundamentalist and faith healer John Curran states that the early Christian bible refers to crystals only five times and certainly not in connection with healing. In his opinion all methods of healing, apart from prayer, are the work of demons and represent evil.

I asked him why he believed this. Surely the people who have been healed would not consider it to be an evil act? He told me it is the devil's way of misleading and turning people

away from God.

He then quoted a verse from one of the many versions of the Bible, telling us to beware of healers, spiritualists and witches.

In the middle ages Lorraine would almost certainly have been executed as a witch and John given the role of Witch Finder General. I find it amusing that in modern times attitudes towards them are almost reversed.

Whatever the source of healing, be it good or bad, a mixture of faith and natural remedies do seem to work for some.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

THE ROCHDALE POLTERGEIST CASE CONTINUES

THE SECOND PART TO A HISTORICAL LOOK AT UFOs

THE CONTINUING RESEARCH OF NDEs

PSYCHOMETRY UNCOVERED

CAMERA APPARITIONS

and lots more...

HAIR TODAY! GONE TOMORROW!

BY
STEPHEN MERA

In September 1995 I was approached by a local lady, Clare Aitken who presented us with a puzzling case.

She explained that she owned a Mini Metro and that for the last three weeks it's exhaust had been discharging clumps of 'hair'. She felt this to be highly unusual and wanted us to try and make an evaluation of it.

We asked for any further emissions to be brought to us for examination. At this stage we thought it could be wadding from the silencer, but could not be sure as we

had not seen it.

A fortnight later, Clare and her brother David came to see us, they were wielding a bag with twelve feet of 'hair' inside. David explained that whilst taking their children to school they

from the carbonised portions. It's texture gave us the impression of manufactured fibres, definitely not human. We telephoned Austin Rover and Quick-fit asking if it was possible for it to be wadding from the two year old exhaust. They



THE AUSTIN MINI-METRO

had heard a loud popping sound and the strange substance was trailing behind the car.

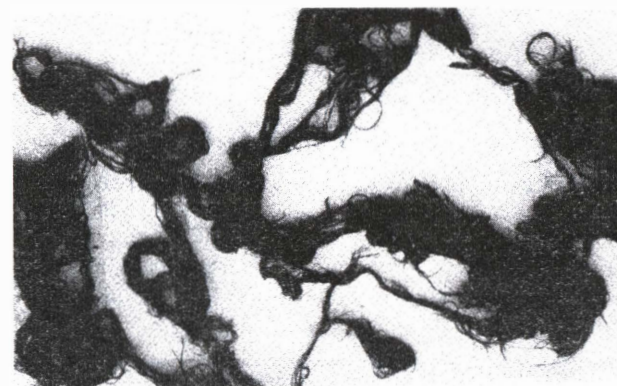
The 'hair' itself was rather a nice colour apart

were both adamant that it could not be, due to its length. Austin Rover however offered to analyse it for us, we accepted the offer and sent them a sample.

In the meantime another eight feet of 'hair' emerged. We received a telephone call from Austin Rover, they told us the substance was definitely wadding from the silencer unit although this type of wadding was illegal two years previously when the exhaust was fitted. The wadding was actually horse hair mixed with artificial fibres.

We informed Mrs. Aitken who was relieved to know that there was nothing supernatural involved.

CASE SOLVED



THE MYSTERIOUS HAIR

**CALL THE NARO
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**Would be interested to hear from anyone
who has experienced any anomalous
phenomena.**

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